

Pierce County Central Labor Council

AFL-CIO

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February 19, 2003

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STATE OF WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in vehement opposition to the use of remote controlled locomotives in our community. Railroads are major transporters of nuclear waste, hazardous materials and chemicals. Numerous accidents have already occurred where remote controlled train operations are allowed. Given the potential dangers associated with remote controlled train operations, I am amazed that unmanned locomotives are being allowed to operate.

I am speaking on behalf of 32,000 union members affiliated with the Pierce County Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO. We want the trains in our neighborhoods to be controlled by the most fully trained, qualified and experienced railroad operating craft employees, not someone who is in a remote location with the remote control device strapped around their waist.

We demand safe train operations. Do not compromise safety in an effort to save a few dollars.

Sincerely,



Patty Rose
Secretary-Treasurer

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